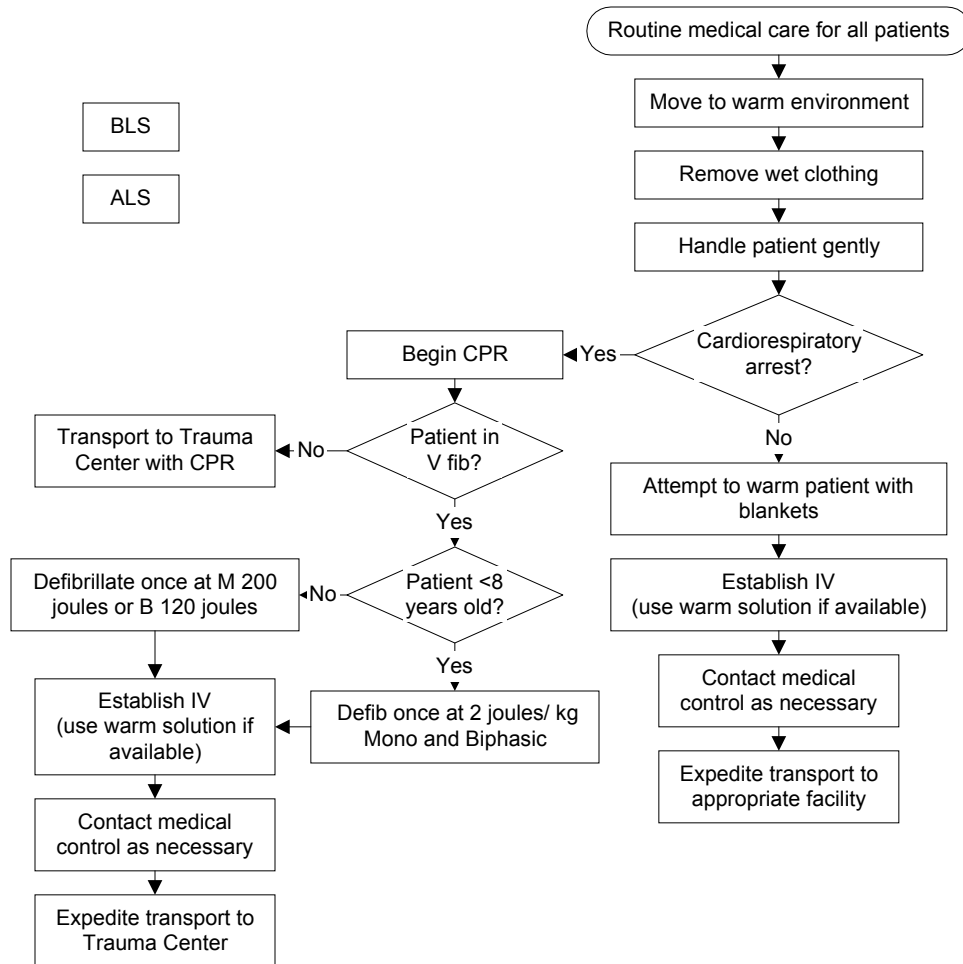


Initiated: 7/94
Reviewed/revised: 5/14/03
Revision: 3

**MILWAUKEE COUNTY EMS
MEDICAL PROTOCOL
HYPOTHERMIA**

Approved by: Ronald Pirrallo, MD, MHSA
Signature:
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History:	Signs/Symptoms:	Working Assessment:
Exposure to environment Extremes of age Drug use: Alcohol, barbiturates Patient wet History of infection	Cold Shivering or not Altered level of consciousness Pain or altered sensation to extremities Bradycardia Hypotension/shock	Hypothermia



NOTES:

- Hypothermia is defined as a core temperature below 95°F or 35°C.
- Young and old patients are more susceptible to hypothermia.
- Shivering stops below 90°F or 32°C
- Temperatures below 88°F or 31°C often cause ventricular fibrillation, which rarely responds to defibrillation. Hypothermic patients should be handled gently in an attempt to avoid this.
- Hypothermia may cause severe bradycardia. Pulses should be palpated for one full minute.
- Consider transporting patients with significant signs of hypothermia (e.g. bradycardia, altered level of consciousness, frozen extremities, hypotension, etc.) to a facility capable of core rewarming.